

1 **In the Claims**

2 Claims 79, 82, 91, and 97 are currently amended.

3 Claims 1, 4, 5, 13, 16, 22, 23, 28, 32, 35, 36, 40, 43, 44, 46, 50, 51, 55, 60,
4 61, 65, 69, 70, 73, 76, 77, 91 and 97 were previously amended.

5 Claims 3, 21, 34, 42, 49, 59, 68, and 75 have been cancelled without
6 prejudice.

7 Claims 1, 2, 4-20, 22-33, 35-41, 43-48, 50-58, 60-67, 69-74, 76-97 remain
8 in the application and are listed below:

9
10 1. (Previously Presented) A computing device comprising:
11 one or more processors;
12 memory operably associated with the one or more processors;
13 one or more applications loadable in the memory and executable on the one
14 or more processors; and

15 the one or more processors being configured to:

16 receive context information from externally of the device, the
17 context information pertaining to one or more current device contexts;

18 automatically determine one or more current contexts from the
19 context information using one or more hierarchical traversable tree
20 structures, wherein the tree structures comprise individual nodes individual
21 ones of which being associated with a context, wherein said one or more
22 current contexts are determined by traversing at least one node on at least
23 one of the tree structures, wherein individual nodes comprise an entity
24 identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a basis by
25

1 which attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated with an
2 individual node;

3 locally evaluate a collection of policies in connection with the one or
4 more current contexts to provide a resultant set of policies; and
5 enforce the resultant set of policies on the one or more applications.
6

7 2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the device is configured to
8 receive context information from multiple different context providers that provide
9 different types of context information.
10

11 3. (Cancelled).
12

13 4. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the one or
14 more hierarchical tree structures comprise at least one primary tree structure, at
15 least one secondary tree structure, and at least one link between the primary and
16 secondary tree structures, the link being traversable to determine the one or more
17 current contexts.
18

19 5. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the one or
20 more hierarchical tree structures provide a common abstract representation of
21 context.
22

23 6. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the device is configured to
24 determine the one or more current contexts dynamically.
25

1 7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the device is configured to
2 receive policies from different policy sources.

3
4 8. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the device is configured to
5 receive policies from different policy sources, the policies from the different
6 policy sources being defined in terms of a common abstract representation of
7 context.

8
9 9. (Original) The device of claim 1 embodied as an enterprise device,
10 the collection of policies comprising at least enterprise policies that are defined in
11 terms of a common abstract representation of context.

12
13 10. (Original) The device of claim 1 embodied as a portable device.

14
15 11. (Original) The device of claim 1 embodied as a wireless device.

16
17 12. (Original) The device of claim 1 embodied as a handheld device.

18
19 13. (Previously Presented) A computing device comprising:
20 one or more processors;
21 memory operably associated with the one or more processors;
22 one or more applications loadable in the memory and executable on the one
23 or more processors; and
24 the one or more processors being configured to:
25 receive context information from externally of the device, the

1 context information pertaining to a current device context and determine a
2 current context using one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on
3 the device, wherein the tree structures comprise individual nodes each of
4 which being associated with a device context, wherein said current context
5 is determined by traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree
6 structures, and wherein individual nodes comprise an entity identification
7 (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a basis by which attributes
8 can be assigned to goods or services associated with an individual node;
9 and

10 enforce a set of policies on the one or more applications, the set of
11 policies pertaining to a current context that is associated with the context
12 information.

13
14 14. (Original) The computing device of claim 13, wherein the one or
15 more processors are configured to determine the current context from the context
16 information.

17
18 15. (Original) The computing device of claim 13, wherein the one or
19 more processors are configured to locally evaluate a collection of policies, in
20 connection with the received context information, to provide the set of policies.

21
22 16. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a computing device
23 comprising:

24 receiving context information from externally of a computing device, the
25 context information pertaining to a current device context;

1 automatically determining, with the computing device, a current context
2 using the context information,

3 wherein said act of automatically determining comprises:

4 providing one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
5 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
6 associated with a device context, wherein individual nodes comprise an
7 entity identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a
8 basis by which attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated
9 with an individual node; and

10 traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree structures to
11 provide the current context;

12 evaluating a collection of policies in connection with the current context to
13 provide a resultant set of policies; and

14 enforcing the resultant set of policies on one or more applications that are
15 executable by the computing device.

16
17 17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said evaluating
18 comprises locally evaluating the collection of policies using the computing device.

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20 18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said evaluating
21 comprises evaluating the collection of policies remote from the computing device.
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1 19. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said receiving
2 comprises receiving context information from multiple different context providers
3 that provide different types of context information.
4

5 20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said receiving
6 comprises wirelessly receiving the context information.
7

8 21. (Cancelled).
9

10 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the one or
11 more hierarchical tree structures comprise at least one primary tree structure, at
12 least one secondary tree structure, and at least one link between the primary and
13 secondary tree structures, the link being traversable to determine the device's
14 current context.
15

16 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the one or
17 more hierarchical tree structures provide a common abstract representation of
18 context.
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20 24. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising receiving
21 policies from multiple different policy sources.
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1 25. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising receiving
2 policies from multiple different policy sources, the policies being defined in terms
3 of a common abstract representation of context.

4
5 26. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the computing device
6 comprises an enterprise computing device and further comprising receiving
7 policies from an enterprise policy source, the policies being defined in terms of a
8 common abstract representation of context.

9
10 27. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
11 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
12 computer to implement the method of claim 16.

13
14 28. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a computing device
15 comprising:

16 receiving context information from externally of a computing device, the
17 context information pertaining to a current device context;

18 automatically determining, with the computing device, a current context
19 using the context information;

20 wherein said act of automatically determining comprises:
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1 providing one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
2 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
3 associated with a device context, wherein individual nodes comprise an
4 entity identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a
5 basis by which attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated
6 with an individual node; and

7 traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree structures to
8 provide the current context; and

9 enforcing a set of policies, which are the result of a collection of policies in
10 connection with the current device context, on one or more applications that are
11 executable by the computing device, the resultant set of policies pertaining to a
12 context that is associated with the context information that is received.

13
14 29. (Original) The method of claim 28 further comprising determining,
15 on the computing device, a context that is associated with the context information.

16
17 30. (Original) The method of claim 28 further comprising locally
18 evaluating a collection of policies responsive to receiving the context information,
19 said evaluating providing a resultant set of policies.

20
21 31. (Original) The method of claim 28 further comprising receiving one
22 or more policies from externally of the computing device, said one or more
23 policies being associated with a context which is, in turn, associated with the
24 context information.

1 32. (Previously Presented) A computing device comprising:
2 one or more processors;
3 memory operably associated with the one or more processors;
4 one or more applications loadable in the memory and executable on the one
5 or more processors; and
6 the one or more processors being configured to:
7 receive context information from externally of the device, the
8 context information pertaining to a current device context;
9 automatically determine a current context from the context
10 information using one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
11 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
12 associated with a device context, the device being configured to determine
13 its current context by traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree
14 structures, wherein individual nodes comprise an entity identification (EID)
15 that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a basis by which attributes can
16 be assigned to goods or services associated with an individual node;
17 locally evaluate a collection of policies in connection with the
18 current context to provide a resultant set of policies;
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1 enforce the resultant set of policies on the one or more applications;
2 responsive to receiving context information that indicates a change
3 of current context:

4 locally re-evaluate the collection of policies to provide a new
5 resultant set of policies; and

6 enforce the new resultant set of policies on the one or more
7 applications.

8
9 33. (Original) The device of claim 32, wherein the device is configured
10 to receive context information from multiple different context providers that
11 provide different types of context information.

12
13 34. (Cancelled).

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15 35. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 32, wherein the one or
16 more hierarchical tree structures comprise at least one primary tree structure, at
17 least one secondary tree structure, and at least one link between the primary and
18 secondary tree structures, the link being traversable to determine the device's
19 current context.

20
21 36. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 32, wherein the one or
22 more hierarchical tree structures provide a common abstract representation of
23 context.

1 37. (Original) The device of claim 32, wherein the device is configured
2 to determine current context dynamically.

3
4 38. (Original) The device of claim 32, wherein the device is configured
5 to receive policies from different policy sources.

6
7 39. (Original) The device of claim 32, wherein the device is configured
8 to receive policies from different policy sources, all of the policies being defined
9 in terms of a common abstract representation of context.

10
11 40. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a computing device
12 comprising:

13 wirelessly receiving context information from externally of a computing
14 device, the context information pertaining to a current device context;

15 automatically determining, with the computing device, a current context
16 using the context information;

17 wherein said act of automatically determining comprises:

18 providing one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
19 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
20 associated with a device context, wherein individual nodes comprise an
21 entity identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a
22 basis by which attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated
23 with an individual node; and

24 traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree structures to
25 provide the current context;

1 locally evaluating, with the computing device, a collection of policies in
2 connection with the current context to provide a resultant set of policies;

3 enforcing the resultant set of policies on one or more applications that are
4 executable by the computing device;

5 determining whether the device's current context has changed and if so,
6 automatically determining a new current context using received context
7 information;

8 responsive to determining the new current context, locally re-evaluating,
9 with the computing device, the collection of policies to provide a new resultant set
10 of policies for the new current context; and

11 enforcing the new resultant set of policies on the one or more applications.

12
13 41. (Original) The method of claim 40 wherein said receiving comprises
14 receiving context information from multiple different context providers that
15 provide different types of context information.

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17 42. (Cancelled).

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19 43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the one or
20 more hierarchical tree structures comprise at least one primary tree structure, at
21 least one secondary tree structure, and at least one link between the primary and
22 secondary tree structures, the link being traversable to determine the device's
23 current context.

1 44. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein the one or more
2 hierarchical tree structures provide a common abstract representation of context.

3
4 45. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
5 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
6 computer to implement the method of claim 40.

7
8 46. (Previously Presented) A computing device comprising:
9 one or more processors;
10 memory operably associated with the one or more processors;
11 one or more applications loadable in the memory and executable on the one
12 or more processors; and

13 the one or more processors being configured to:

14 receive location information pertaining to a current device location;
15 automatically determine a current location from the location
16 information using one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
17 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
18 associated with a device location, the device being configured to determine
19 its current location by traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree
20 structures, wherein individual nodes comprise an entity identification (EID)
21 that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a basis by which attributes can
22 be assigned to goods or services associated with an individual node;

23 locally evaluate a collection of policies in connection with the
24 current location to provide a resultant set of policies; and
25

1 enforce the resultant set of policies on the one or more applications.

2
3 47. (Original) The computing device of claim 46, wherein said one or
4 more processors are configured to receive location information from externally of
5 the device.

6
7 48. (Original) The computing device of claim 46, wherein the device is
8 configured to receive location information from multiple different location
9 providers that provide different types of location information.

10
11 49. (Cancelled).

12
13 50. (Previously Presented) The computing device of claim 46, wherein
14 the one or more hierarchical tree structures comprise at least one primary tree
15 structure, at least one secondary tree structure, and at least one link between the
16 primary and secondary tree structures, the link being traversable to determine the
17 device's current location.

18
19 51. (Previously Presented) The computing device of claim 46, wherein
20 the one or more hierarchical tree structures provide a common abstract
21 representation of location.

22
23 52. (Original) The computing device of claim 46, wherein the device is
24 configured to determine the current location dynamically.
25

1 53. (Original) The computing device of claim 46, wherein the device is
2 configured to receive policies from different policy sources.

3
4 54. (Original) The computing device of claim 46, wherein the device is
5 configured to receive policies from different policy sources, the policies from the
6 different policy sources being defined in terms of a common abstract
7 representation of location.

8
9 55. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a computing device
10 comprising:

11 receiving location information pertaining to a current device location;
12 automatically determining, with the computing device, a current location
13 using the location information;

14 wherein said act of automatically determining comprises:

15 providing one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
16 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
17 associated with a device location, wherein individual nodes comprise an
18 entity identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a
19 basis by which attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated
20 with an individual node; and

21 traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree structures to
22 provide the current location;

23 locally evaluating, with the computing device, a collection of policies in
24 connection with the current location to provide a resultant set of policies; and

25 enforcing the resultant set of policies on one or more applications that are

1 executable by the computing device.

2
3 56. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein said receiving
4 comprises receiving the location information from externally of the device.

5
6 57. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein said receiving
7 comprises receiving location information from multiple different location
8 providers that provide different types of location information.

9
10 58. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein said receiving
11 comprises wirelessly receiving location information from multiple different
12 location providers that provide different types of location information.

13
14 59. (Cancelled).

15
16 60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the one or
17 more hierarchical tree structures comprise at least one primary tree structure, at
18 least one secondary tree structure, and at least one link between the primary and
19 secondary tree structures, the link being traversable to determine the device's
20 current location.

21
22 61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the one or
23 more hierarchical tree structures provide a common abstract representation of
24 location.

1 62. (Original) The method of claim 55 further comprising receiving
2 policies from multiple different policy sources.

3
4 63. (Original) The method of claim 55 further comprising receiving
5 policies from multiple different policy sources, the policies being defined in terms
6 of a common abstract representation of location.

7
8 64. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
9 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
10 computer to implement the method of claim 55.

11
12 65. (Previously Presented) A computing device comprising:
13 one or more processors;
14 memory operably associated with the one or more processors;
15 one or more applications loadable in the memory and executable on the one
16 or more processors; and
17 the one or more processors being configured to:
18 receive location information pertaining to a current device location;
19 automatically determine a current location from the location
20 information using one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
21 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
22 associated with a device location, the device being configured to determine
23 its current location by traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree
24 structures, wherein individual nodes comprise an entity identification (EID)
25 that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a basis by which attributes can

1 be assigned to goods or services associated with an individual node;
2 locally evaluate a collection of policies in connection with the
3 current location to provide a resultant set of policies;
4 enforce the resultant set of policies on the one or more applications;
5 and
6 responsive to receiving location information that indicates a change
7 of current location:
8 locally re-evaluate the collection of policies to provide a new
9 resultant set of policies; and
10 enforce the new resultant set of policies on the one or more
11 applications.

12
13 66. (Original) The computing device of claim 65, wherein the one or
14 more processors are configured to receive location information from externally of
15 the device.

16
17 67. (Original) The computing device of claim 65, wherein the device is
18 configured to receive location information from multiple different location
19 providers that provide different types of location information.
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1 68. (Cancelled).

2
3 69. (Previously Presented) The computing device of claim 65, wherein
4 the one or more hierarchical tree structures comprise at least one primary tree
5 structure, at least one secondary tree structure, and at least one link between the
6 primary and secondary tree structures, the link being traversable to determine the
7 device's current location.

8
9 70. (Previously Presented) The computing device of claim 65, wherein
10 the one or more hierarchical tree structures provide a common abstract
11 representation of context.

12
13 71. (Original) The computing device of claim 65, wherein the device is
14 configured to receive policies from different policies sources.

15
16 72. (Original) The computing device of claim 65, wherein the device is
17 configured to receive policies from different policies sources, all of the policies
18 being defined in terms of a common abstract representation of location.

19
20 73. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a computing device
21 comprising:

22 wirelessly receiving location information from externally of a computing
23 device, the location information pertaining to a current device location;

1 automatically determining, with the computing device, a current location
2 using the location information;

3 wherein said act of automatically determining comprises:

4 providing one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
5 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
6 associated with a device location, wherein individual nodes comprise an
7 entity identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a
8 basis by which attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated
9 with an individual node; and

10 traversing at least one node on at least one of the tree structures to
11 provide the current location;

12 locally evaluating, with the computing device, a collection of policies in
13 connection with the current location to provide a resultant set of policies;

14 enforcing the resultant set of policies on one or more applications that are
15 executable by the computing device;

16 determining whether the device's current location has changed and if so,
17 automatically determining a new current location using received location
18 information;

19 responsive to determining the new current location, locally re-evaluating,
20 with the computing device, the collection of policies to provide a new resultant set
21 of policies for the new current location; and

22 enforcing the new resultant set of policies on the one or more applications.
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1 74. (Original) The method of claim 73, wherein said receiving
2 comprises receiving location information from multiple different location
3 providers that provide different types of location information.

4
5 75. (Cancelled).

6
7 76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the one or
8 more hierarchical tree structures comprise at least one primary tree structure, at
9 least one secondary tree structure, and at least one link between the primary and
10 secondary tree structures, the link being traversable to determine the device's
11 current location.

12
13 77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the one or
14 more hierarchical tree structures provide a common abstract representation of
15 location.

16
17 78. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
18 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
19 computer to implement the method of claim 73.

20
21 79. (Currently Amended) A computing device comprising:
22 one or more processors;
23 memory operably associated with the one or more processors;
24 one or more applications loadable in the memory and executable on the one
25 or more processors; and

1 the one or more processors being configured to:

2 collect policies from multiple different policy sources to provide a
3 collection of policies, the policies being expressed in terms of context
4 dependencies associated with multiple different device contexts;

5 receive context information from externally of the device, the
6 context information pertaining to a current device context;

7 automatically determine a current context from the context information,

8 wherein said act of automatically determining comprises:

9 using one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
10 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
11 associated with a device location, wherein individual nodes comprise an
12 entity identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a
13 basis by which attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated
14 with an individual node;

15 locally evaluate the collection of policies in connection with the
16 current context to provide a resultant set of policies; and

17 enforce the resultant set of policies on the one or more applications.

18
19 80. (Original) The device of claim 79, wherein the device is configured
20 to:

21 automatically determine when its context has changed;

22 locally re-evaluate the collection of policies to provide a new resultant set
23 of policies responsive to a context change; and

24 enforce the new resultant set of policies.
25

1 81. (Original) The device of claim 79, wherein the context comprises
2 location.

3
4 82. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a computing device
5 comprising:

6 collecting policies from multiple different policy sources to provide a
7 collection of policies, the policies being expressed in terms of context
8 dependencies associated with multiple different device contexts;

9 receiving context information from externally of a computing device, the
10 context information pertaining to a current device context;

11 automatically determining a current context from the context information,
12 wherein said act of automatically determining comprises:

13 using one or more hierarchical traversable tree structures on the
14 device, the tree structures comprising individual nodes each of which being
15 associated with a device location, wherein individual nodes comprise an
16 entity identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a
17 basis by which attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated
18 with an individual node;

19 locally evaluating the collection of policies in connection with the current
20 context to provide a resultant set of policies; and

21 enforcing the resultant set of policies on the device.

22
23 83. (Original) The method of claim 82 further comprising:

24 automatically determining when a device context has changed;

25 determining a new device context;

1 locally re-evaluating the collection of policies in connection with the new
2 device context to provide a new resultant set of policies; and
3 enforcing the new resultant set of policies on the device.
4

5 84. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
6 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
7 computer to implement the method of claim 82.
8

9 85. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
10 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
11 computer to implement the method of claim 83.
12

13 86. (Original) A programmable computing device programmed with
14 instructions that implement the method of claim 82.
15

16 87. (Original) A programmable computing device programmed with
17 instructions that implement the method of claim 83.
18

19 88. (Original) A method of providing policies for enforcement on
20 computing devices comprising:

21 providing a representation of location using multiple hierarchical tree
22 structures each of which comprising multiple nodes, each node representing a
23 location that can be either a physical location or a logical location, the tree
24 structures comprising at least one link between them that can serve as a basis for a
25 traversal operation that traverses the multiple tree structures to derive a computing

1 device location, and

2 expressing multiple policies as a function of the representation of location.

3
4 89. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
5 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
6 computer to implement the method of claim 88.

7
8 90. (Original) A method of providing policies for enforcement on
9 computing devices comprising:

10 expressing multiple policies as a function of an abstract representation of
11 location that uses multiple hierarchical tree structures each of which comprising
12 multiple nodes, each node representing a location that can be either a physical
13 location or a logical location, the tree structures comprising at least one link
14 between them that can serve as a basis for a traversal operation that traverses the
15 multiple tree structures to derive a computing device location; and

16 making the multiple policies available to computing devices.

17
18 91. (Currently Amended) A computer architecture embodied on a
19 computer readable media comprising:

20 a context service that provides context information or context change
21 events that pertain to the context of a computing device;

22 wherein said context service determines context using one or more
23 hierarchical traversable tree structures, the tree structures comprising individual
24 nodes each of which being associated with a device context, the context service
25 being configured to determine context by traversing at least one node on at least

1 one of the tree structures, wherein individual nodes comprise an entity
2 identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a basis by which
3 attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated with an individual node;
4 and

5 a policy engine communicatively linked with the context service and
6 configured to:

7 receive context information or context change events from the
8 context service;

9 evaluate a collection of policies to provide a resultant set of policies
10 responsive to the context information or context change events; and

11 enforce the resultant set of policies on a computing device.
12

13 92. (Original) The computer architecture of claim 91, wherein the policy
14 engine is configured to enforce the resultant set of policies by promulgating new
15 settings for one or more applications that are executable by the computing device.
16

17 93. (Original) The computer architecture of claim 91 wherein the policy
18 engine is configured to enforce the resultant set of policies by promulgating new
19 state for one or more applications that are executable by the computing device.
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21 94. (Original) The computer architecture of claim 91, wherein the policy
22 engine is configured to receive policies from multiple different policy sources.
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1 95. (Original) A computing device embodying the computer architecture
2 of claim 91.

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4 96. (Original) An enterprise computing device embodying the computer
5 architecture of claim 91.

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7 97. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
8 a computer-readable medium;
9 a context service embodied on the computer-readable medium and that
10 provides context information or context change events that pertain to the context
11 of a computing device;

12 wherein said context service determines context using one or more
13 hierarchical traversable tree structures, the tree structures comprising individual
14 nodes each of which being associated with a device context, the context service
15 being configured to determine context by traversing at least one node on at least
16 one of the tree structures, wherein individual nodes comprise an entity
17 identification (EID) that is unique to the node, EIDs serving as a basis by which
18 attributes can be assigned to goods or services associated with an individual node;
19 and

20 a policy engine communicatively linked with the context service, but
21 remote from the computing device, and configured to:

22 receive context information or context change events from the
23 context service;

24 evaluate a collection of policies to provide a resultant set of policies
25 responsive to the context information or context change events; and

provide the resultant set of policies to the computing device.

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